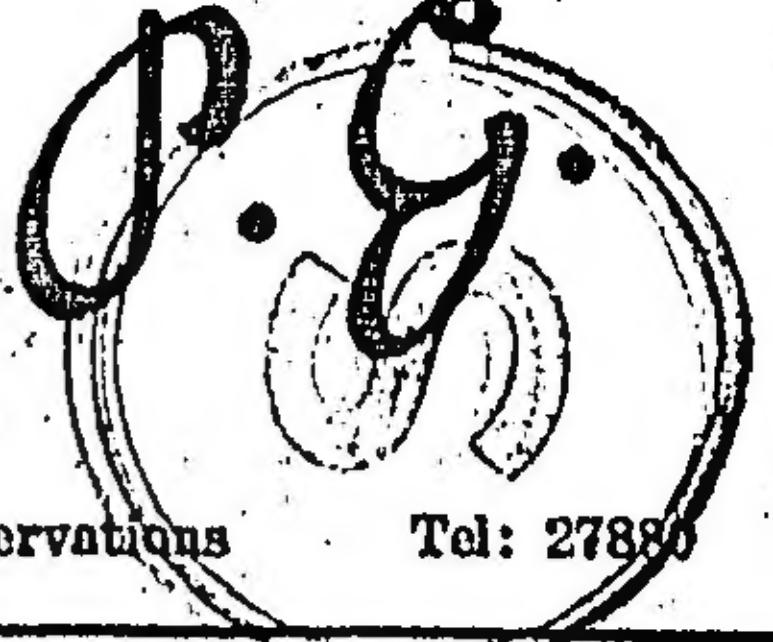




For the Proprietor of
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BIG FOUR AGAIN AGREE IN PRINCIPLE

Necessity Of Forming A Central German Govt.

London, Nov. 27.—The United States, Britain and Russia agreed on Thursday night on the necessity of quickly forming a central government for all Germany. Russia balked at creating a commission to study Germany's final boundaries.

Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov said that so far as the Soviet Union was concerned the east German territory up to the Oder and Neisse rivers was ceded to Poland and required no further study. Britain and the United States protested. The Potsdam agreement placed this territory under Polish administration "pending final determination of Poland's western frontier."

Foreign Ministers of the US, Russia and Britain reached a tentative agreement that a German government should participate in any peace conference and ratify any treaty. The Ministers discussed topic after topic in general terms, overriding protests of France's Georges Bidault that the agenda was not being followed.

Despite wide areas of "agreement," it was reported nothing sufficiently new was developed to break any of the deadlocks on main issues blocking drafting of the German and Austrian treaties.

French sources said Foreign Minister Georges Bidault would accept at today's meeting of the Big Four, the eastern frontiers of Germany as outlined at Potsdam. The Potsdam decision was an agreement that, "pending final determination of Poland's western frontier," large slices of eastern Germany should be placed "under the administration of the Polish state."

CONFlict OF VIEWS

In effect, Germany's eastern frontier was pulled in to the Oder and Neisse Rivers. Parts of East Prussia were placed "under the administration" of Poland and parts "under the administration" of Russia, including the fortress port of Königsberg.

Such a position by France in support of Russia would be in opposition to views of Secretary of State George Marshall and British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin, who have insisted that the de facto transfer of German territory to Poland should await discussion and "confirmation" by an Allied peace conference. These sources implied France did not necessarily support the principles of the changes, but was looking at the situation "realistically."—Associated Press.

UNIFIED GERMANY ISSUE

London, Nov. 27.—M. Vyacheslav Molotov, the Soviet Foreign Minister, was expected to demand the

formation soon of an All-German Government in his campaign for a decision in the German peace conference when the Council of Foreign Ministers met again today.

BIDAULT'S STATEMENT

The French Foreign Minister, M. Georges Bidault, today read a statement to the Council on Germany. He said that the definition of Germany's frontiers must precede a discussion of the German peace treaty. It was useless, he said, to discuss a treaty without knowing precisely the area of the country being talked about.

M. Bidault argued that two main decisions were needed:

- 1.—To put a stop to the transfer of population into Germany, and
- 2.—To secure the security of Germany's neighbours and create favourable conditions for their economic recovery.

The meeting, the first at which the Ministers could get away from the question of their own agenda, had before it the vital issue left undecided at the Moscow Conference last spring of the method by which the German peace treaty is to be negotiated and who is to be invited to the peace conference.

Two differences have split the Ministers since the matter was raised at Moscow, the first whether Albania should be permitted to attend the peace conference as Russia wishes and, second, whether the British Dominions and the smaller powers should be associated with the drafting of the treaty, as Britain and the United States wish.

M. Molotov has now added a third and more vital issue—the formation of a Central German Government which would be required to accept a peace treaty before it could come into effect.

The Western powers have thus been brought face to face with the central issue of the present conference—whether Germany should be partitioned or reunited.

M. Molotov made the Soviet Union the champion of German unity. The Foreign Ministers' deputies, ordered yesterday to discuss the Austrian problem and report back by next Tuesday, today got down to the central issue of German assets in Austria. They heard details of the French compromise proposal to split the assets into two cate-

MINOR ADJUSTMENTS

M. Bidault asked that the minor adjustments of the Franco-German frontier asked for by the French delegation in Moscow should be discussed at the present session.

"No answer from the great powers to the frontier claims of the Benelux countries and Czechoslovakia has yet been given by the Council of Foreign Ministers," M. Bidault reminded his colleagues.

He regarded the Belgian and Czechoslovak claims as "frontierifications designed to straighten out the borders between these countries and Germany."

"The claims of Holland and Luxembourg are in a different category," he said. "They are mainly based on hardships suffered at the hands of Germany during the war." M. Bidault urged an early decision on all these problems.

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(Continued On Page 4)

Kwangtung's Gov. Here



Dr. T. V. Soong, Governor of Kwangtung, with H.E. the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, photographed at Queen's Pier yesterday upon the arrival of Dr Soong who is paying a brief official visit to the Colony.—Francis Wu.

6,000,000 Workers To Decide Whether Or Not To Strike

Paris, Nov. 27.—Six million French workers were tonight telling their unions whether or not they favoured joining the strike which is slowly strangling the economic life of the country.

Even while they decided, the new Premier, M. Robert Schuman, was fighting for a vote of confidence in the National Assembly. Many deputies wanted to speak in the debate on the Government's policy and it was doubtful whether a vote would be taken tonight.

The general strike call was not expected to be made by the General Confederation of Labour until decisions from all the 10 non-striking unions were known. Eighteen of the striking unions control more than 2,200,000 workers.

The French Communist Party proclaimed its solidarity with the strikers today, and at the party's political bureau meeting, the Government's terms for a settlement were described as "an insult to the misery of the workers."

A new threat to Paris' food supplies developed when road haulage men of the Central Food Market decided to join the strike.

FISHING FLEET TIED UP

The whole fishing fleet of Caen, after unloading its catch today, was tied up, the seamen and dockers refusing to put the boats to sea again. It is the height of the herring season.

The National Cartel of Public Services, grouping 11 national unions with more than 2,000,000 members tonight voted against an immediate strike. The voting was six unions to four, with one abstention—that of the National Police Union.

This development in France's 2,000,000 strong strike wave followed tonight's decision by the 18 leading unions officially on strike to form a National Committee for co-ordinating action throughout the country.

Paris' harbers tonight, through their union, offered to cut the hair of any striker in the Paris region free of charge.

The move of the National Cartel of Public Services followed last night's rejection by the CGT of the Government's terms, which failed to meet the strikers' demand for an increase in the minimum wages from 8,000 francs to 10,800 francs.

The Christian Federation of Trade Unions said that it would accept the terms with the reservation that the proposed measures be applied without delay and be amplified with the "improved food supply and lower prices." It urged that strikers return to work.

CALM OPENING

Tonight's session of the National Assembly opened calmly and without interruption.

In the early stages of the debate, neither the Government nor Opposition speakers made any reference to the strike situation.

The Government will do everything possible in favour of the workers, miners, metal workers, dockers, builders, and merchant seamen was almost 100 percent.

A statement issued from the Hotel Malignon, France's No. 10 Downing Street, this afternoon, said that the Government intended "to respect and protect the rights provided and guaranteed by the constitution and the law."

It is, in particular, firmly decided to protect the freedom to work," the statement added.

All north-bound rail traffic out of Paris was at a standstill as workers in the shunting yards and sidings refused to supply locomotives or coaches to make up trains.

Limited services were available for travellers to Eastern Europe, but the local train services were reduced by almost 100 percent, according to reliable estimates.

The Paris main post office, the storm centre of Communist attempts to spread the postal strike and anti-Communist attempts to stop it, reopened for restricted business today.

The telephone service was normal, but telegrams were interrupted.

Mails were being carried by troops, who also assisted with the distribution of milk and newspapers.

(Continued on page 4)

SHANGHAI RIVER PILOTS SUSPENDED

Shanghai, Nov. 27.—Shanghai, one of the world's largest ports, was crippled today by the suspension of the licences of 22 harbour pilots for what Inspector General of Customs L. K. Little described as "insubordination and exorbitant pay increase demands." The pilots' make nearly US\$1,000.

Little, an American, said the pilots notified Marine Commissioner Captain Fred Sabel they would refuse to work unless granted substantial pay boosts, for which they have been negotiating for the past week. Sabel, acting on orders from Little, warned that unless they heeded, "for work," by noon their licences would be suspended. None showed up. The pilots include

Americans, Norwegians, Britons, Russians and Chinese.

Little said they received 40 percent increases on November 1 and were now getting from one-fourth to one-third more than pilots elsewhere in the world. Little broadcast for replacements. He said that if a sufficient number is not obtained in 48 hours, "the Shanghai shipping situation will be extremely difficult."

Sixty-three ships of all types are anchored in the muddy Whampoa and 11 of them are scheduled to sail for the United States and Europe during the next week. Fifteen are enroute to Shanghai and due to arrive within the next two weeks.

—Associated Press.

Bordeaux, Nov. 27.—American crew members of the Liberty ship Helton Carey, strike-bound in harbour here, declared their solidarity today with the Communist-led French maritime strike.

In a resolution made public by the Bordeaux Central Strike Committee, American sailors members of the Congress of Industrial Organisations Maritime Union said, "American workers are with the French people, fighting against the Taft-Hartley methods on a national and international plane and against constant rise of prices. We equally support you in your courageous fight against the imperialist Marshall Plan for we believe each nation has a right to its own conception."—United Press.

EDITORIAL

Development & Welfare

As I January Government, in a long statement glowing with satisfaction, informed an interested public that as long ago as July, 1946, a special Committee had been set up in Hongkong to examine development and welfare schemes which would qualify for financial assistance under the Imperial Government's Colonial Development and Welfare Act of 1945. The committee's terms of reference were: "To examine and make recommendations to Government in respect of the draft schemes which have been put forward by Heads of Departments in connection with the allocation to this Colony of the sum of £1,000,000, under the provisions of the Colonial Development and Welfare Act, 1945; to prepare for the consideration of Government a plan covering all the objects of development and welfare expenditure in this Colony during the next ten years. The preparation of this plan is to be effected in accordance with the instructions of the Secretary of State for the Colonies as contained in the letter dated November 12, 1945, on the subject of the Colonial Development and Welfare Act." It is necessary to recall that in this despatch the Colonial Secretary emphasized: "It was of first importance that the interest of the inhabitants should be aroused in connection with any proposed schemes, their opinion consulted and their co-operation secured wherever possible. The Hongkong Government sought to satisfy this condition by appointing firstly a com-

mittee which included public representatives and secondly by the creation of sub-committees which included a number of co-opted members with special knowledge or qualifications. It will readily be conceded that the task placed upon these planners is enormous; that a 10-year development and welfare plan for Hongkong cannot be prepared in a day. On the other hand, the committees have been at work for 16 months, and it should now be possible for Government to give the public a progress report, and some indication how much longer will be needed to complete the plans. It is obvious that some of the schemes to be put forward will come into the long-term development category; others, conceivably, can be started as soon as approval has been given by the Imperial Government. This second consideration urges the desirability of completing the Hongkong plan as soon as possible, especially if, for example,

it is proposed to provide a library and reading rooms under the development and welfare scheme. The Secretary of State for the Colonies clearly intends any 10-year plan to be fulfilled within that period or as soon after as is feasible. The sooner, therefore, Hongkong can receive ap-

proval for its projects and proceed with them, the more likely is the plan to be fully realised within the prescribed time. The public would certainly welcome official information on how far the Development Committee has progressed in its responsible task.

(Continued On Page 4)

ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT FAILS

Bordeaux, Nov. 27.—General Raoul Montrouge, French Air Corps Commander for this area, was wounded today in an attempt on his life by an unnamed assassin, the military authorities announced. His condition was not serious.

Dealing in minor repercussions of displaced persons on the economic and political situation, M. Bidault asked that study should be given to the problem of migration from Germany as a whole.

France, he said, had given a lead in this matter by organising a settlement on French territory of displaced persons and by a system of allowing ex-German prisoners of war to stay on as voluntary workers in France. One hundred and thirty thousand ex-prisoners of war had volunteered under this scheme.

A systematic scheme for the relief of population density in Germany would be useful, not only, to the parties concerned, but also to Germany herself.

The attacker, fleeing the scene,

was chased, and caught by two officers after he had fired two wild shots at them.—United Press.

(Continued On Page 4)



ADVANCE BOOKING OFFICE
ST. FRANCIS HOTEL, QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL.
BOOKING HOURS: 11.30 A.M. TO 5.30 P.M. DAILY.

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



NEXT CHANGE

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ROSAMUND PAMELA
JOHN KELLINO

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From the original story by E.D. MORRABAN
MICA ANN STEPHENS HENRY OSCAR
Directed by John Gielgud
Music by P. Maxfield & Pamela Kellino
Produced by STONEY BOX and JAMES MASON
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MARCH OF TIME
TERRYTOON IN TECHNICOLOR!

SHOWING
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QUEEN'S

At 2.30, 5.15,
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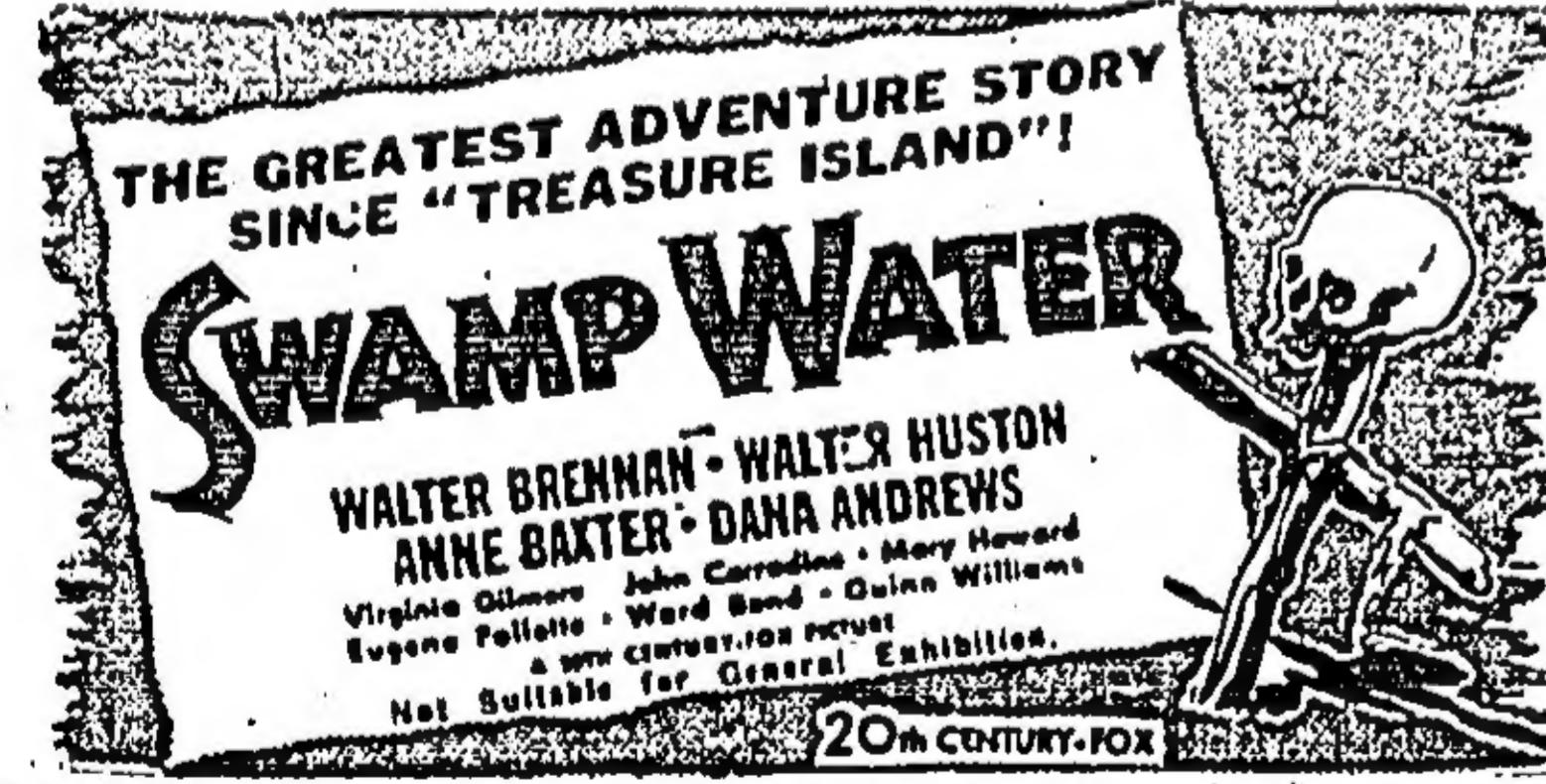
THE PICTURE THAT WON THE ACADEMY
AWARD FOR JOAN FONTAINE!



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THE RECORD BREAKING CHINESE PICTURE!
"SECRET AGENT NO. 1"
Dialogue in MANDARIN

ORIENTAL

FINAL SHOWING TO-DAY: 2.30—5.20—7.30—9.30 P.M.
A VERY EXCITING PICTURE



COMMENCING TO-MORROW: "SHOW-OFF"

SHOWING
TO-DAY

MAJESTIC

At 2.30, 5.00,
7.20 & 9.40 p.m.



It was a quiet affair last time, too

by BERNARD WICKSTEED

THE excitement over the royal wedding set me thinking about the time Queen Victoria got married. History is always more interesting when you can link it up with current affairs.

Princess Elizabeth's great-great-grandmother was married in London on a cold, foggy, wet Monday in February 107 years ago. The ceremony was not in Westminster Abbey but in the chapel at St James's Palace, since bombed by the Germans.

You might think that all the crowned heads in Europe would be at an affair like that, but apart from the bride there weren't any. The world was at peace then, and England so sure of herself that there wasn't much need for glamorous shows of friendship.

There were also few Tories present. At that time Queen Victoria did not like Tories. She blamed them for cutting Albert's marriage allowance from £50,000 to £30,000 and wouldn't ask them to the wedding.

Albert, as you know, was a German prince, and Victoria's first cousin. At the age of three his nurse told him that if he was a good boy and grew up into a nice man he would marry the Queen of England.

She wasn't entirely right. He certainly married the Queen, but he wasn't always a good boy. Once he filled the pockets of a princess's coat, with soft cheese, and another time he made some stink bombs of sulphured hydrogen and dropped them in the pit of the local theatre.

The early hour was an innovation of Queen Victoria's. Before then royal weddings had been solemnised in the evening. The change was made for the benefit of the public, but it probably had the wholehearted approval of Albert, who hated late parties.

It was a well-known fact that since childhood he could not keep awake much after ten. Once at dinner he fell off a chair—fast asleep.

Albert was dressed for the wedding as a British field-marshal.

The Queen wore a white satin gown trimmed with £1,000 worth of Honiton lace. The train was so heavy that it took 12 attendants to carry it.

Victoria first met him when he was 16 and she 17, and she said afterwards that he had a delightful exterior and every quality that could be desired to render her perfectly happy. She probably hadn't heard about the cheese and the stink bombs.

She said 'obey'

ALTHOUGH it was she who had a proposed marriage in the first place, when it came to the ceremony Victoria promised to obey. In the chapel Albert was the more nervous of the two and flattered with his gloves and Prayer-book.

Afterwards, when they were drying to Windsor for their three-day honeymoon, the rain stopped and the sun came out, which gave rise to the expression "Queen's weather," still used by vicars and organisers of village fêtes for days that start badly and end well.

Next day the Times (eight pages, price 5d.) had a 30,000-word report of the wedding, all under one single column heading.

But, wedding or no wedding, the world went on much the same as usual. In the same issue of the Times were 4,000-words about the Lunacy Commission, "respectable" messengers wanted a young assistant of good dress, and full-board and lodgings were advertised at 12s. 6d. a week.

BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

HIM, says old Watercress, Snibbo in short supply. What will my young master rub on his feet when he returns from potting grouse?... There he is...

Well, Watercress, not such a dusty bag. Nineteen birds and a parson's hat. Any Snibbo going?... Yes, sir, we have one precious bottle in the cellar, I was keeping it for Miss Pen's coming-out party... Fetch it up, Watercress... Yes, sir, are your feet tired?... Feet be blown, Watercress, I want a stiff drink... Well, well, Snibbo can be used for anything. Lucky I kept a second bottle for mending the roof of that potting shed.

Mimsie Slopcorner

"WE are just good friends," said Mr T. Cleverley Grampound, Mayor of Sopping Overcote, when interviewed. "I think Miss Slop-corner" he added, "is the very essence of English womanhood. She is doing a big job." Mimsie, who was resting at the Gravel-diggers' Arms after her exertions as Miss Staggered Schedules, said: "It is awfully kind of the mayor. He is so nice. A real gentleman. He asked me to be Queen Boudicca in the Sopping Overcote Pageant of Old Britain, but I don't know if I can. I'm Miss Austerity Pudding at the British

Let's Go Out For a Walk in the Dark So I Can Use My New Flashlight

OH, ALL RIGHT

NANCY—WHY DON'T YOU TURN ON YOUR FLASHLIGHT?

I DON'T WANT TO WASTE MY BATTERY

TURN IT ON SO WE'LL KNOW WHERE WE'RE GOING?

O.K.

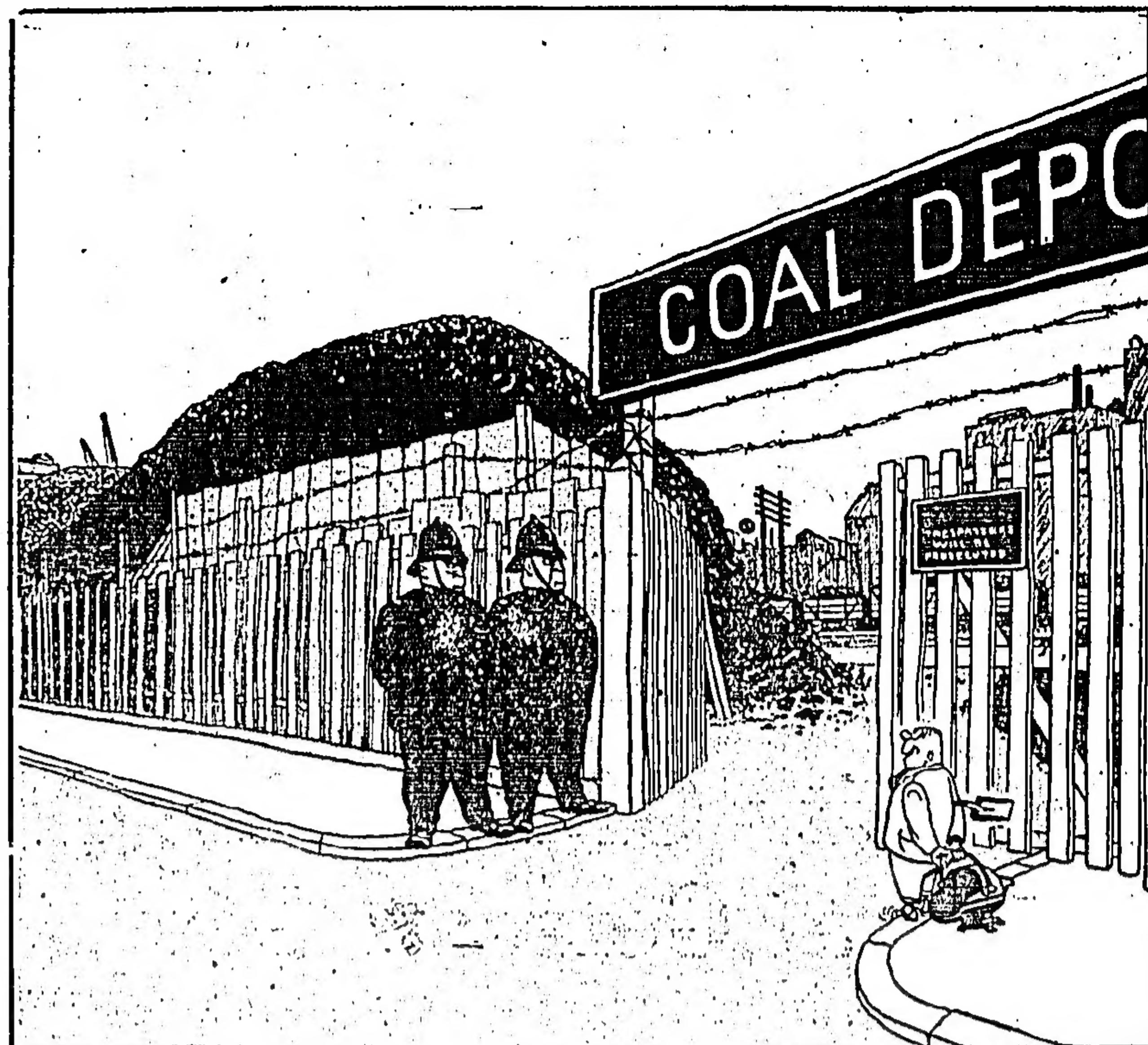
JOE'S ICE CREAM PARLOR

HEAD FIRST FOR BEAUTY!

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On Sale at Leading Stores

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"Lovely weather we're having lately, aren't we?"

Trevor Evans sums up the qualities of the Chancellor who has gone

The Dalton Touch helped, but—

HUGH DALTON'S resignation will shock his party, I prophesy that he will soon be back in office, not only because of his ability, but because of the support he commands.

Ability and support form one of his distinctive features. They do not always go together among the Socialists.

Dalton has managed to be an "intellectual" who gained the respect and admiration of the bulk of the trade unions.

It has not been easy. Professor Laski never quite succeeded in this. Sir Stafford Crisp has—because his austerity and religious convictions are understood by the deep, Nonconformist traditions of the workers.

BUT Dalton's secret is his friendliness. And that friendliness proved to be his temporary downfall. He was like that most of his life. I have known it often during the past 20 years.

Laughs

AT one time his friendliness was misunderstood. The workers thought Dalton was "talking down to them."

They could not understand how the son of a canon who attended Queen Victoria at Windsor Castle could understand them or why he should want to—except for his own advantage.

They were suspicious. Humorous stories, alleged to be about him, did not help.

The one most widely told, and which lasted longer than any other, was this:

When Dalton was a small boy, Queen Victoria placed her hand on his head. He yelled. The old Queen winced and murmured: "What a dreadful voice—just like his father's."

It got the laughs. But it also planted the suspicion that here was an intruder from another world. In those days that was a handicap.

Suspicion

HUGH DALTON killed those suspicions finally by his work for months."

By Ernie Bushmiller

They have been tragedies for Britain this year, when he failed until too late—to realize the speed at which the American Loan was dwindling and the disastrous effect of the convertibility clause on this nation's resources.

To the public, his service as President of the Board of Trade is remembered for the introduction of clothes rationing. He first said that patches were patriotic.

Mastery

IF his judgment was wrong this year, his party—and many outside it—never failed to rejoice at his performances on major parliamentary occasions.

His mastery of his brief, his effective simplification of economic matters, and his energy, with his despatch-box thumping, all proclaimed that he knew where he was.

Of course, he had the advantage of specialising in a subject which only a minority of his hearers understood. That was much of his strength.

It remains to be regarded as far as able by the overwhelming majority of his party to be left out of office.

Again, that does not mean that Dalton is universally popular with the Socialists. Not one of the "Big Five" is in that position. The "sacking" of Arthur Greenwood has bruised all who remain at the top.

And now ...

PRESIDENT criticism of Dalton without any personal weaknesses of his, but to the secrecy of the Cabinet over the steel issue.

It is believed that Dalton was one of the leaders in favour of the postponement of nationalisation. Here again he was nearer the unions than the Socialist extremists; but that does not endear him to the Left Wing.

Whatever happens, seeing eye to eye with the unions is not a bad thing for a politician out of office.

Especially one who has dispelled the greatest fear held by Transport House: that food subsidies were to be reduced. The trade unions will not be ungrateful for that.

Dalton's friendliness will pay dividends—as long as this Government is in office.

It's The Colonel Again!

Manila, Nov. 27.—Col. Robert R. McCormick, publisher of the Chicago Tribune, said he was "tremendously impressed" with the importance of the Philippines after a daylong aerial trip today over the southern islands covering about 1,000 miles.

He noted vast areas of sugar, rice and coconut trees during a flight over Cebu, Leyte, Mindanao, Iloilo and other islands.

Asked what he thought of President Truman's price control proposals, he termed them "nonsense."

"We won't have any price control in the United States," the Colonel said. "Farmers killed that a year ago when they refused to produce food."

He said the most important thing in the world today is to keep the United States from going into inflation, and the "way to stop inflation is to stop spending."

Col. McCormick said the main trouble with American aid to Europe is that only about "ten percent will be spent usefully."

Chinese Now Deal

Touching on China, he said the Chinese "have got to get rid of their new deal."

"The world has come to a point where the boundary is on one side or the other—either the United States or China," Col. McCormick said. "I say make it China."

Asked to explain his reference in Hongkong to New York Governor Thomas E. Dewey and Senator Arthur Vandenberg as "foreigners," Col. McCormick replied he was naming them as candidates for Republicans' Presidential nomination because "they are representatives of international bankers, and international bankers are hostile to the United States."

Asked about former Vice-President Henry A. Wallace, the Colonel said: "I am willing to give him to the Philippines."—United Press.

PALACE AUSTERITY DECREE

London, Nov. 27.—Buckingham Palace set the Royal seal on another year of official "austerity" today by announcing that the King and Queen would not hold Court next spring and summer.

Instead, there would be garden parties at Buckingham Palace which would count for women as a Court presentation and would count for men merely as another hot afternoon of trying to crack through a milling crowd of 5,000 for a glimpse of the Royal Family.

Only a small percentage of the thousands invited to garden parties get to see the Royal Family, and even less have the honour of a word from the King, Queen, Queen Mother or Princesses. But the fact of their presence within the 40-acre enclosure carries socially the title, "presented at Court."

There have been no great state balls at Buckingham Palace since before the war, and there probably will be none until the King is satisfied the economic crisis is over and that diamond-studded soirees will evoke no popular resentment.

Not For Men

The Palace announcement pointed out specifically that attendance at garden parties did not carry the presented at Court label for men. They must wait until the "levees" with the King are reinstated at the end of austerity. Socially ambitious males have been having a tough time, since the last levee was eight years ago.

Americans and other foreign women desiring to attend presentations must do so through their Embassies or Legations in London. Several score of Americans were at last year's garden gatherings, munching sardine sandwiches and sipping tea with the bon ton of Britain.—United Press.

GERMAN SUBS DESTROYED

Washington, Nov. 27.—Four former German submarines were sunk in the Atlantic off Cape Cod, Massachusetts, last week-end in the United States Navy service tests of an experimental torpedo. It was announced here officially today.

The Navy Department made no further reference to the torpedo than to say that it had been developed by its naval ordnance laboratories.

The submarines had been acquired under the Potsdam Agreement.

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Answers

- In the Antarctic, a base established by Admiral Byrd.
- On two, the Earth and Mars.
- It is a surface form of coal and is used in the agricultural regions of Ireland for fuel.
- Nine.
- Twenty-four dollars U.S. currency.
- Six.

PREMISES WANTED

NICE ROOM with own bath, no board, by single European gentleman on Island, will pay up to \$300 per month. Box 110 Hongkong Telegraph.

FINN GOVERNMENT WORKERS STRIKE

Services Paralysed

Helsinki, Nov. 27.—The Finnish Government today ordered the police to occupy all the strike-bound post, telephone and telegraph buildings, and stated that the police would be called in if necessary to protect persons trying to break the strike of 50,000 civil servants which started at midnight yesterday.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT TO STAY

London, Nov. 27.—The Government has decided that the time is not opportune for the suspension or abolition of the death penalty in Britain, in view of the big rise in crimes of violence and the emergence of armed criminal gangs since the war.

Announcing this in the House of Commons today, Mr. James Chuter Ede, Home Secretary, added, however, that, as the Government recognised that Members had strong conscientious feelings on this subject, there would be a free non-partisan vote which would be final.

Mr. Chuter Ede was asking the House for a second reading of the Criminal Justice Bill, making widespread reforms in the British penal system, including the abolition of flogging, penal servitude and hard labour.

All detention will now simply be "imprisonment".

Under the Bill, imprisonment under 21 is forbidden unless it is felt that no other method is appropriate.

Detention Centres

A number of detention centres will be set up for offenders between the ages of 14 and 21. These centres will provide discipline, hard work and education for those for whom some form of control is essential.

The Bill also provides for fingerprints to be taken without a person's consent even if he is not remanded in custody.

Mr. Chuter Ede said that since 1938, crimes like malicious wounding, robbery with violence and rape had increased from 1,576 to 4,181 last year.

The Bill was welcomed by the Opposition although Mr. O. Peake, their chief speaker, said that it was going too far for the police to take fingerprints when a summons was issued for some petty offence.

He thought capital punishment should be retained.—Reuter.

Egyptian Army Officers Arrested

Cairo, Nov. 27.—Mortada El Maraghy Bey, the Egyptian Director of Public Security, stated today that 12 Army officers and non-commissioned officers believed to be implicated in the alleged plot to blow up the home of Lieutenant-General Ibrahim Attalah Pasha, the Egyptian Chief of Staff, and assassinates other high officials, were arrested on Monday.

He said that the arrested men were suspected of being members of the Communist Party and added: "I cannot divulge anything more at the present stage of the investigation."

Denying reports circulated in Egypt and abroad that the plot was aimed at the overthrow of the Government and that 50 officers had been arrested, the Director of Public Security said that such allegations were the "product of some one's irresponsible imagination."

His statement appeared to confirm the opinion held by responsible circles here that the plot was a purely Army affair, directed against Army leadership.

Some quarters believed that the plot was engineered by discontented elements in the Egyptian Army to express their displeasure over the appointment of Mohamed Nafar Pasha as Defence Minister in the recent Cabinet reshuffle, carried out by the Prime Minister, Nkrumah.

General opinion, however, discounted the idea of there having been any question of a plot in the nature of a coup d'etat.—Reuter.

SEVEN LUCKY ELIZABETHS

London, Nov. 27.—Seven lucky Elizabeths who are each to receive an American dress from Princess Elizabeth were announced today by the Women's Voluntary Service. They are: Elizabeth Bates, of Great Clifton, near Worthington, Cumberland; Elizabeth Flood (Mrs. Baller), of Balsall Heath, Birmingham; Elizabeth McFarland (Mrs. Scotland), of Dundee; Elizabeth Swater (Mrs. Hardman), of Dodderidge Street, Liverpool; Elizabeth Russell (Mrs. Tully), of Territorial Rd., Calford, London; Elizabeth Watson (Mrs. Plisgood), of Wilson Street, Lissburn, Co. Antrim; and Constance Elizabeth Jones (Mrs. Linden), of Cockshut, Shropshire.

NICE ROOM with own bath, no board, by single European gentleman on Island, will pay up to \$300 per month. Box 110 Hongkong Telegraph.

Simultaneously, the Government announced that it would issue a "mobilisation order," compelling 10,000 of the strikers to return to work.

The strike for higher wages, which today involved more than half of the country's total corps of civil servants, paralysed most of Finland's industrial and administrative life, and 17 ships, loaded with export goods, lay in Helsinki Harbour because there were no officials to clear their papers.

Political parties, campaigning for the communal elections on December 5, are distributing their propaganda by messengers because there is no postal service.

The Municipal Employees' Association, who are watching strike developments closely, have notified the Government that they will strike on December 20 unless their claims for higher wages are met. This would mean the cutting off of most of the country's gas, electricity and water supplies.

The Communist press, which has supported nearly every strike since the armistice in 1944, opposes the civil servants' strike, saying that they are "reactionaries trying to fight the Government by coercion."

In some places, manual workers have demonstrated against the strike.

A Civil Servants' Association spokesman said this afternoon that the strike would continue until all claims are met.—Reuter.

SHOOTING ACCIDENT

Spanish Official Injured

Madrid, Nov. 27.—The Under-Secretary of Agriculture, Señor Emilio Lamo de Espinosa, was seriously wounded by the full blast of a shot gun while hunting partridge with Generalissimo Francisco Franco yesterday. It was disclosed today.

Lamo was shot in the stomach and chest accidentally by a member of Franco's party whose identity could not be learned.

Informants said, however, that General Rafael Garcia Valino, Chief of Staff of the Spanish Army, was posted nearest to Lamo when the accident occurred.

It is believed the shooting happened at twilight while Franco and his party were hunting partridge on an estate called Calle la Ventilla, situated in Toledo Province. Dusk is acknowledged to be the most dangerous hour to hunt fast, high-flying birds.

Blood Transfusions

Major Moreno Torres of Madrid, who also participated in the partridge shoot, returned to Madrid last night and told intimates only that it was a successful party and that more than 400 partridges were bagged.

Lamo was rushed to hospital in Madrid this morning and given three blood transfusions in quick succession. The hospital said he was on the danger list.

It is understood Franco called off the partridge shoot as soon as the accident occurred.

The Franco party included the Minister of Agriculture (Carlos Rein), Minister for Air (General Eduardo Gonzalez Gallarza), Captain General of Madrid (General Augustin Munoz Grandes), and the chief of Franco's military household (General Martin Alonso).—United Press.

It is believed the plot was hatched in the Egyptian Army to express their displeasure over the appointment of Mohamed Nafar Pasha as Defence Minister in the recent Cabinet reshuffle, carried out by the Prime Minister, Nkrumah.

General opinion, however, discounted the idea of there having been any question of a plot in the nature of a coup d'etat.—Reuter.

Letters To The Editor

A Gentle Reply To Colonel McCormick

Sir—I feel that you were less than just in your editorial on our recent undistinguished visitor, Colonel McCormick.

One must make allowances for the fact that this unfortunate gentleman relies for his information on a fly-blown tabloid known as the Chicago Tribune. I, myself, can testify that to read six consecutive issues of this remarkable pamphlet is sufficient to induce a state of mild insanity.

What a pity it is that no one pointed out to the dear Colonel that we, the British, had had the recent war since it was a little more than an argument; we watched it grow up and took pride in our achievement.

Furthermore if the battle of Waterloo was not won at Eton most assuredly World War 2 was not won at Ebbots Field.

S. M. P. WALSH.



Editorial Press Service

"That's the effect I'm trying to get with my curtains."

BIG FOUR AGREE IN PRINCIPLE

(Continued From Page 1)

He then made two concrete proposals:

1.—On frontiers—that the territorial claims on which an agreement in principle was possible should be referred to experts for elaboration. Other claims should be referred to the deputies.

2.—On populations:—(a) that there should be no new transfers beyond those already authorised, (b) where the states concerned were willing to give an agreement that even authorised transfers should be halted, (c) that there should be no final settlement of displaced persons in Germany, and (d) that German emigration should be organised in consultation with international organisations.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

Today's meeting was limited to the second item on the agenda—preparation of the German peace treaty (frontiers and procedure).

The Big Four Ministers ranged inclusively over several aspects of the German problem.

Mr. Ernest Bevin, in a statement on the last basic British document on Germany tabled in Moscow last spring, and again at yesterday's meeting, emphasised that Britain favoured the formation of a Central German Government.

Mr. George Marshall, the American Secretary of State, today agreed that the British document should be accepted as the basis of discussion, but before a general agreement on this matter could be secured the discussion turned to the question of Germany's Eastern frontier with Poland.

The difference of views between the Foreign Ministers was again apparent. Both Mr. Bevin and Mr. Marshall challenged M. Molotov's assertion that the existing Oder-Nisse frontier between Germany and Poland, worked out at Potsdam, is final.

In the view of Britain and the United States, this frontier remains provisional until confirmed at the peace conference.

M. Molotov then circulated in Russia a Soviet document on Germany.

He obstructed the French proposal, describing it as "premature." M. Molotov said that although the Soviet Union considered frontiers one of the most important questions and although he understood the French desire to raise the question now, he thought it should be considered as part of the whole treaty and related problems.

BEVIN SUPPORTS BIDAULT

The Soviet Foreign Minister defined Germany as all areas under the Allied Control Council.

M. Molotov added: "We are here to discuss the peace treaty and not the establishment of a frontier commission."

Mr. Bevin, supporting M. Bidault, cited the usefulness of the Trieste Frontier Commission.

In a general statement of the British view on the preparation of the German peace treaty, Mr. Bevin submitted again his statement of principles made at the Foreign Ministers' Conference in Moscow.

He said that the formation of a German Government was important especially in its character, in the matter of elections and its powers, and unless these points were clearly defined, a "puppet" government might result.

He also warned that over-centralisation would lead to dictatorship and the menace of another war.

Mr. Bevin emphasised that the German Government should be one on which all four powers could agree and not one dominated by one power. He supported the formation of a frontier commission and said that the present frontiers were merely zones of administration and were not final. He added that on any one item he would reserve his position until he saw the whole of the frontier question.

M. Molotov said that the principal question was whether the Big Four wanted a united democratic Germany, or wanted to see the liquidation of a unified German State.

He said that failure to answer clearly would be understood as a denial of a unified Germany.

SOVIET PROPOSITIONS

The Soviet Foreign Minister said that, guided by past decisions, on the formation of an All-German

World Sports News Of The Moment

DiMaggio Again Wins High Honour

BOXING, TENNIS, RUGBY, RACING

New York, Nov. 27.—Joe DiMaggio, lanky Yankee centre-fielder, who rose magnificently to lead the team to pennant and world championship despite injuries that threatened to end his career, has won by the closest margin the American League's most valuable player award for the third time.

He beat the loop's other premier slugger, Ted Williams of the Red Sox.

DiMaggio was named on eight out of 24 first place ballots and received a total of 202 points while Williams, the League batting champion who won the award in 1946, got only three first place ballots. The annual poll is conducted by the Baseball Writers' Association.

For third place, Cleveland's short-stop manager, Lou Boudreau, edged out Yankee relief pitcher Joe Page by 108 to 107.

Fifth place went to George Kell, Detroit Tigers' third baseman, with 132 points, while others in the top ten were: George MacQuinn, Yankee's first baseman; 77; Joe Gordon, Indians' second baseman; 59; Bob Feller,